The Cleveland Museum of Art

Press Release

For Immediate Release
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JANUARY FILM SERIES
First-ever touring series of New York Video Festival Highlights
plus three newly restored film documentaries
Jan. 2 – Jan. 30, 2000
Featuring new works by Ken Kobland, Kelly Reichardt, Alfred Guzzetti, and others

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CLEVELAND — The New York Video Festival, presented every July at Lincoln Center, is one of the premier video events in America. Beginning Jan. 14, the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) will present some of the highlights from last summer's festival — 19 short videos and two features — ranging from diaries and dramas to absurdities and abstractions. "This is the first time the Film Society of Lincoln Center has toured highlights from the festival," notes CMA film program coordinator John Ewing, "and we are very pleased to be able to show them to the public." The videos will be organized into five thematic groups: *Working for the Man* (Jan. 14 and 16); *They Don't Make 'em Like They Used To* (Jan. 19); *Family Matters* (Jan. 23); *Society of Spectacle* (Jan. 26); and *Outer and Inner Space* (Jan. 30). Please note: these programs are not appropriate for children.

In addition to January's video offerings are three film documentaries. *To the German People: The Wrapped Reichstag* (Jan. 2 and 5) chronicles the artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude's recent wrapping of Berlin's Reichstag, a project they lectured about at CMA three years ago. *South* (Jan. 7 and 12) comprises the remarkable footage shot on the scene of Sir Edward Shackleton's ill-fated 1914–16 expedition to Antarctica. This silent film has been fully restored with color tints and tones and a new music score. The Oscar-nominated *Dancemaker* (Jan. 9) presents a fascinating portrait of master choreographer Paul Taylor, and has been critically acclaimed as perhaps "the best dance documentary ever" (*Time*).

All videos and films will be shown in the Lecture Hall or Gartner Auditorium. Admission is $6. For more information on the CMA and its events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.clemusart.com.

Film details on reverse

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New York Video Festival
(Please note: these programs are not appropriate for children.)

Program 1: Working for the Man
Friday, Jan. 14 at 7:30
Sunday, Jan. 16 at 2:00
(Germany/USA, 1997/99, color, ¾" video, 81 min.) Two perspectives on living in the material world. In Caspar Stracke's ***Locked Groove*** (Germany, 1997), workers of the world contemplate their existence. Christopher Wilcha's ***The Target Shoots First*** (USA, 1999) is an extraordinary video diary shot while the filmmaker was a marketing assistant at Columbia House, where he wrote a grunge catalogue to promote the alternative rock group Nirvana. The movie offers a frank and fascinating look at the inner workings of the mail-order music giant.

Program 2: They Don't Make 'em Like They Used To
Wednesday, Jan. 19, 7:30
(USA, 1999, color ¾" video, 76 min.) Classic movie formulas with a contemporary spin. Program includes: Animal Charm's ***Mark Roth*** and ***Marbles*** (both USA, 1999), two found footage frolics; Anne McGuire's ***All Smiles and Sadness*** (USA, 1999), a take-off on daytime TV drama starring George Kuchar; Les LeVeque's ***2 Spellbound*** (USA, 1999), from Hitchcock; and Kelly Reichardt's ***Ode*** (USA, 1999), a modern update of the Billy Joe McAllister legend immortalized by Bobbie Gentry.

Program 3: Family Matters
Sunday, Jan. 23, 2:00
(USA/Britain, 1997-99, color ¾" video, 88 min.) Seven videos about fathers, mothers, sons, and daughters: Diane Nerwen's ***Spank*** (USA, 1998); Neil Goldberg's ***My Parents Read Dreams I've Had About Them*** (USA, 1998); Pilar Wiley's ***No Concept but Good Sense*** (USA, 1998); Gillian Wearing's ***2 into 1*** (Britain, 1997); Sean Bokenkamp's ***Generation Loss*** (USA, 1997); Carl Callam's ***A Part of Me*** (Britain, 1998); and Kathy High's ***Shifting Positions*** (USA, 1999).

Program 4: Society of Spectacle
Wednesday, Jan. 26, 7:30
(USA, Italy, 1998-99, color, ¾" video, 85 min.) Wild takes on contemporary culture, full of sex and seduction. Program includes: Jennifer Reeder's ***Johnny Takes a Dive*** (USA, 1999); Shelly Silver's ***small lies, Big Truth*** (USA, 1999); about Monica Lewinsky and President Clinton; Cane CapoVolto's ***Evil and Pop Culture*** (Italy, 1998); and Theresa Duncan's ***The History of Glamour*** (USA, 1999), an animated movie about a girl from Antler, Ohio, who becomes a New York supermodel and pop star.

Program 5: Outer and Inner Space
Sunday, Jan. 30, 2:00
(USA, 1999, color, ¾" video, 102 min.) Contemplations of landscapes in and out of time. Program includes: Michael Ginsburg's ***Moorings*** (USA, 1999); Scott Stark's ***in.side.out*** (USA, 1999); Alfred Guzzetti's ***A Tropical Story*** (USA, 1999); Ken Kobland's ***Transit Riders of the Earth Unite! Walk Dog Eat Donut*** (USA, 1999); and Jem Cohen's ***Amber City*** (USA, 1999), an impressionistic portrait of an unnamed Italian city.

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Restored Documentaries

To the German People: The Wrapped Reichstag
Sunday, Jan. 2, 2:00
Wednesday, Jan. 5, 7:00
(France, Germany, 1996, color, subtitles, 35 mm, 98 min.) Directed by Jörg Daniel Hissen and Wolfram Hissen. Fascinating account of how Christo and Jeanne-Claude wrapped Berlin's Reichstag with fabric in 1995.
Ohio premiere!

South: Ernest Shackleton and the *Endurance* Expedition
Friday, Jan. 7, 7:30
Wednesday, Jan. 12, 7:30
(Britain, 1919/98, color tinted and toned b&w, silent with music track, 88 min.) Directed by Frank Hurley. The gripping chronicle of Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914 expedition to Antarctica via the South Pole. When his ship became trapped in ice before he could reach shore, Shackleton and his crew embarked on a heroic two-year odyssey to safety via ice floes and lifeboats through hundreds of miles of rough seas and cold and darkness. In the end, not one man was lost. This remarkable film, shot by the expedition's official photographer as the adventure unfolded, has been fully restored by the British Film Institute. Kids 12 & under $3.

Dancemaker
Sunday, Jan. 9, 2:00
(USA, 1998, color, 98 min.) Directed by Matthew Diamond, with Paul Taylor. Frank, fascinating behind-the-scenes look at the life and work of master choreographer Paul Taylor. 1999 Academy Award nominee for Best Documentary Feature. "May be the best dance documentary ever!" — *Time.*

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